



WILLIAM the Third by the grace of God, King of *England, Scotland, France and Ireland*, Defender of the Faith, &c. To all and singular Arch-bishops, Bishops, Arch-deacons, Deans and their Officials, Parsons, Vicars, Curates, and all other Spiritual persons; and also to all Justices of the Peace, Mayors, Sheriffs, Bailiffs, Constables, Church-wardens, Chappel-wardens, Headboroughs, Collectors for the Poor and their Over-seers: And also to all Officers of Cities, Boroughs and Towns Corporate, and to all other Our Officers, Ministers and Subjects whatsoever they be, as well within Liberties as without, to whom these presents shall come Greeting. Whereas it has been humbly represented to Us by the *Sieur Henry Arnault*, and others imployed by the *Vandois*, Inhabitants of the Valleys on this side of the River *Cluson*, that they being Subjects of *France* before the late War, have since the conclusion of the Peace, through Popish cruelty, been Excluded and Banisht from their Native Country, without any present hope of Return, but by Renouncing their Holy Religion, which, through the singular goodness of God, both they and their Brethren the *Vandois* of *Piedmont* on the other side of the said River, have hitherto kept undefiled; being thus seperated from their said Brethren, and driven to seek a place of Habitation for themselves and their Families, to the number of about Three thousand Five hundred Souls, destitute and bereft of all means of subsistence, they must have perished, but for the exemplary Charity of the Protestant Cantons of *Switzerland*, by whom they have been Fed and Cloathed for these Five Months last past, notwithstanding another great charge they are at for the maintaining of Eight thousand poor *French* Refugees, who by reason of the Scarcity there, are likewise obliged to seek a Retreat elsewhere: But that now the said *Vandois* and the said *French* Refugees, having obtained some waste Lands to Inhabit in the Countries of some of the Protestant Princes in *Germany*; which Lands they are obliged forthwith to Plant, and to bring into Tillage, and being not able to do this of themselves in their extream Poverty, nor even to subsist while they are doing it, have therefore humbly implored Our Royal compassion, of which We take them to be very great Objects; and therefore have thought fit to grant them Our Letters Patents, for the gathering of the Alms of all Our loving Subjects, whose hearts God shall move to Contribute to the relief of their pressing necessity and misery. Know ye therefore, that of Our especial Grace and Princely compassion, We have Given and Granted, and by these Our Letters Patents under our Great Seal of *Ireland*, do Give and Grant unto the said distressed Protestants, and to their Agents who shall be lawfully Authorized on their behalf, full Power, Licence and Authority to Ask, Gather, Receive and Take (according to the Rules specified in these presents) the Alms and Charitable Benevolence of all Our loving Subjects, not only Householders, but also Servants, Strangers and others, within all and every the Counties, Cities, Boroughs, Towns, Corporate, Priviledged places, Parishes, Chappelries, Towns, Villages, Hamlets, and all other places whatsoever in this Our Kingdom of *Ireland*. Wherefore We Require and Command all and singular the Arch-bishops and Bishops of all the Provinces and Diocesses within this Our Kingdom of *Ireland* (unto whose Paternal care and inspection, We chiefly recommend the effectual Execution of these Our Letters Patents) that they and every of them, do give a particular Recommendation and Command to all the Parsons, Vicars and Curates of all and every the Parishes and other places, as well within Liberties as without, within their respective Diocesses, for the advancement of this so pious and charitable a work. And Our further Will and Pleasure is, that the said Arch-bishops and Bishops, do require their respective Chancellors, Vicars General and Commissaries, that within Ten days after the true Copies of these Our Letters Patents shall be delivered to them, to cause the same to be delivered by their respective Apparitors to the said Parsons, Vicars and Curates, of all and every the Parishes and other the places, as well within Liberties as without, within the respective Diocesses to which they belong, for which the said Apparitors to be allowed out of every Brief so delivered, Four pence only. And the said Parsons, Vicars and Curates, upon the Fifth day of *May* next, appointed for a day of General Fasting and Humiliation, or upon the Sixteenth day of the said Month, shall deliberately and affectionately Publish and Declare the tenor of the same unto our said loving Subjects, and earnestly perswade, exhort and stir them up to contribute freely and chearfully towards the relief of these distressed Christians. And the Church-wardens are also hereby required on the Week days next following the said Fast day, or the said Sixteenth day of *May* next, to go from house to house, to ask and receive from all the Parishioners, as well Masters, Mistresses and Servants, as others in their Families, their Christian and charitable contributions, and to take the names in Writing of all such as shall contribute thereunto, and the Summ or Summs by them respectively given: And after such Collection made, they are in the presence of the respective Inhabitants, on the next Lords day following, to Subscribe the whole Summs upon the said Briefs under their Hands, and also to Enter them into Books of Accounts for the said Parishes and Chappelries respectively, and the places where, and the times when such Summs were Collected; and they

A



17 April 1699



they are also to deliver the same to the said Parsons, Vicars and Curates respectively. And the said Parsons, Vicars and Curates, are to send the said Moneys, together with the said Briefs, unto their respective Chancellors, Vicars General and Commissaries; and the said several Chancellors, Vicars General and Commissaries, to the respective Bishops of the several Diocesses, as herein after is declared and directed. And for the better performance of this so pious and charitable a work, the said Parsons, Vicars and Curates respectively, are required, where conveniently they may, to accompany the Churchwardens in asking and receiving the contributions, or procure some other of the chief of the Inhabitants in the said Parishes respectively, to do the same.

And Our further will and pleasure is, and We do hereby for the better advancement of these Our pious Intentions, Will, Require and Command the Bishops, and all other Dignitaries of the Church, that they make their Contributions distinctly, to be returned in the several Provinces to the respective Arch-Bishops of the same. And also that all Our Loving Subjects of this Kingdom, of what Dignity, Degree or Quality whatsoever, may Manifest their Zeal in so good a Work; We do Recommend it to all Heads and Governors of Colledges and Halls in Our University of *Dublin*, and also to the Judges and Officers of all and every Our Respective Courts at *Dublin*, and the professors of the Law both Common and Civil by their several Bodies and Societies, that they and every of them will Contribute their Free and Charitable Benevolence herein. And Lastly, Our Will and Pleasure is, that the Church-Wardens of every Parish where these Our Letters patents shall be read, do Collect the Charity of each Parishoner in manner aforesaid, and do pay the same within Ten days unto the Parson, Vicar or Curate of their respective Parishes, which said Parson, Vicar or Curate, shall after the receipt of the said money, make return thereof, together with the Printed Briefs to his respective Chancellor, Vicar General and Commissaries as aforesaid, after the Feast of *Whitsontide* next, and where there is no Incumbent, the Collector or Collectors shall pay the said money to the respective Chancellor, Vicar General and Commissaries as aforesaid; And the Chancellor, Vicar General and Commissaries of the several Diocesses shall return the said Collection within Ten days next after the receipt thereof, unto some one of the Commissioners hereafter named. And We do hereby Authorize and appoint *John Methuen* Esquier, our Chancellor of our Kingdom of *Ireland*, the most Reverend Father in God *Michael* Lord Arch-Bishop of *Ardmagh*, Primate of all *Ireland*, *Narcissus* Lord Arch-Bishop of *Dublin*, *William* Lord Arch-Bishop of *Castel*, *John* Lord Arch-Bishop of *Tuam*, Our Commissioners of the Revenue in this Kingdom, The Reverend Father in God *Richard* Lord Bishop of *Meath*, The Reverend Father in God *William* Lord Bishop of *Kildare*, The Reverend Father in God *St. George* Lord Bishop of *Clogher*, The Reverend Father in God *Edward* Lord Bishop of *Down* and *Conner*, Sir *Richard Pyne* Knight, Lord Chief Justice of our Chief Place, Sir *John Hely* Knight, Lord Chief Justice of our Common Pleas, *Robert Doyne* Esquire Lord Chief Baron of Our Exchequer, *Robert Rochfort* Esquire Our Attorney General, *Allan Brodrick* Esquire Our Solicitor General, Our Lord Mayor of Our City of *Dublin*, the Sheriffs and Aldermen thereof for the time being, Doctor *George Brown*, Provost of the Colledge of *Dublin*, *Jerome Ryves* Dean of Saint *Patricks*, *Dublin*, Dean *Samuel Price*, Dean *Theophilus Harrison*, Dean *Samuell Syng*, Dean *John Francis*, Sir *Robert King* Knight, *Stephen Ludlow*, *William Palmer*, *William Robinson* and *James Bonnell* Esquires. And they or any five or more of them, are to dispose of such sums as shall be Collected, either in whole or in part, according to the Accounts and Memorials which shall be sent by Mr. *Phillip d'Hervart* Our Envoy Extrordinary in *Switzerland*, and *George Stepny* Esquire, Our Envoy Extrordinary at the Court of *Brandenburgh* whom We have expressly charged to take care of the Settlement of the *Vandois* and *French* Refugees in the Dominions of those Princes who shall Receive them and Grant them Lands, and to whom we have sent positive Orders not to Distribute any thing, but according to the Establishments which shall be signed by the Ministers and Captains of the *Vandois* and the *French* Committees that shall be Appointed in those places; to the end all the moneys may be employed to the best Uses, and given only to such as are in a Body or Society, whereby the Memory and Name of the *Vandois* may be ever preserved, and to Contribute to the settlement of the poor *French* Protestants, who shall be obliged to leave *Switzerland*. And We do hereby Direct and Command, that the said several Chancellors, Vicars General and Commissaries, shall, and do make returns to their respective Bishops, and those respective Bishops, unto the Commissioners above-named or any five of them of what sums they have received and the time when, And that their respective Accounts be Stated in words at length, and not in figures only, and subscribed with their Own Hands. In Witness whereof, have caused these our Letters to be made Patents to continue for one whole year from the Date hereof and no longer. Witness Our Right trusty and Right Wellbeloved Cousins and Counsellors, *Charles* Duke of *Bolton*, and *Henry* Earl of *Gallway*, our Justices and General Governors of Our said Kingdom of *Ireland*, at *Dublin*, the Seventeenth Day of *April*, in the Eleventh Year of Our Reign.

*Domvile.*

---

DUBLIN: Printed by *Andrew Crook*, Printer to the King's Most Excellent Majesty, on the *Blind-Key*, near *Copper-Alley*, M DC XC IX.

